

INCOMBUSTIBLE ROOFS, CALCUTTA ACT, 1837

ACT NO. XII. OF 1837

(Rep., by Act 14 of 1856)

[5th June, 1837.]

*Passed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, on the 5th June 1837.*

I. It is hereby enacted, that every house and outhouse built within the City of Calcutta, after the 1st day of November 1837, shall be covered with an outer roof of incombustible materials, and that, if any house or outhouse be built in contravention of this provision, the owner of such house or outhouse shall, on conviction before a Magistrate, be punished with fine not exceeding 100 Rupees.

II. And it is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Superintendent of the Police of the said City, from the date of the passing of this Act, to tender to the owner of any house or outhouse within the said City, which house or outhouse may have been built before the said 1st day of November 1837, and which may not be covered with an outer roof of incombustible materials, a sum of money to defray the expense of covering such house or outhouse with such an outer roof, and that if the owner of such house or outhouse shall accept the sum so tendered and shall engage that such house or outhouse shall be covered with such an outer roof within a certain time, and shall not within that time cause such house or outhouse to be covered with such an outer roof, such owner shall, on conviction before a Magistrate, be punished with a fine not exceeding ten times the sum so accepted by such owner.

III. And it is hereby enacted, that if any house or outhouse shall be built in contravention of the provision contained in Section I. of this Act, or if any owner of a house or outhouse shall refuse to accept a sum of money tendered by the said Superintendent in the manner described in Section II. of this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Superintendent to cause such house or outhouse to be covered with an outer roof of incombustible materials without the consent of the owner thereof, and to cause such alterations to be made in the walls of such house or outhouse, as may enable such walls to support such outer roof, and to defray the expense out of any funds which may be put at the disposal of the said Superintendent for that purpose either by the Government or by any private person, or body of private persons.

IV. And it is hereby enacted, that whoever shall willfully obstruct the said Superintendent, or any person acting under the authority of the said Superintendent, in the exercise of the powers given to the said Superintendent by Section III. of this Act, shall, on conviction before a Magistrate, be punished with a fine not exceeding 100 Rupees, in excess of any punishment to which the person so obstructing may be liable by reason of any other offence which he may commit in the course of such obstruction.

V. And it is hereby enacted, that all fines levied under the authority of this Act, shall be paid into the General Treasury, and shall be applied to the purpose of defraying expenses incurred in carrying this Act into execution.

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